



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

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Memorandum

TO: Regional Bicycle Working Group

DATE: June 21, 2007

FR: Sean Co

W. I.

RE: Electronic Bicycle Locker Reservation System

Background

As more secure bicycle parking projects apply to competitive grant programs, questions about the reservation system of electronic bicycle lockers are raised and how the reservation system may serve the needs of bicyclists in need of secure bicycle parking at transit and other locations.

Electronic bicycle lockers are a solution to provide secure bicycle parking at transit stations throughout the Bay Area. Current bicycle lockers at BART stations are limited and do not serve an adequate number of users. These lockers can be reserved for several months to 1 year at a time and often do not serve bicyclists needing occasional use of lockers.

Shared-use bicycle lockers turn over locker space as bicyclists only pay for the time that the locker is in use. This allows multiple users to use the locker over the course of a day.

Some of the electronic systems proposed by BART allow users to reserve lockers by a phone or web-based application, which will ensure that a space is available for them once they arrive at a station.

Discussion

Since the electronic lockers are being installed to remedy a situation where current bicycle lockers go unused for long periods and no additional secure bicycle parking is available, the reservation system may actually limit the number of available lockers.

The reservation system may be a necessary incentive for people to take transit knowing that they will have a guaranteed secure spot at a station. This secure parking is necessary when bicycles are prohibited on BART during morning and evening peak hours.

Staff encourages RBWG members to provide recommendations on how the an electronic bicycle locker reservation system may provide adequate secure bicycle parking for occasional bicycle users yet offer a guaranteed spot for users who depend on a storage locker. These recommendations can be provided to regional competitive grant programs to integrate into program guidelines for bicycle parking.